



**PRESS ADVISORY**  
**January 4, 2018**

**Statement from Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman on Potential  
Changes to Federal Policies Regarding Marijuana**

DENVER- Below is a statement from Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman on Potential Changes to Federal Policies Regarding Marijuana:

“As Attorney General it is my responsibility to defend our state laws—and I will continue to do so. There is still a lot we don’t know about what enforcement priorities the Justice Department will implement. I expect, however, that the federal government will continue to focus their enforcement efforts and resources on combatting the gray and black markets and diversion, and not target marijuana businesses who abide by our state’s laws.

The State of Colorado has worked diligently to implement the will of our citizens and has built a comprehensive regulatory and enforcement system that prioritizes public safety and public health. There is still work to be done, but as a state we have focused on strengthening regulation of recreational marijuana and enforcement of state laws. I believe that the priorities laid out in the Cole Memo, including preventing the distribution of marijuana to minors, preventing criminal enterprises and cartels from using our state’s laws as a cover or pretext for illegal activity, and focusing on public health and prevention, are still critically important. In the past, my office has worked well with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Colorado as enforcement priorities have been set, and I expect that partnership and our open communication to continue.”

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